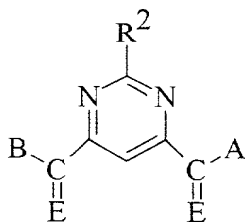


ABSTRACT

Selective MMP-13 inhibitors are pyrimidine derivatives of the formula



1

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

R^2 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl,

C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, NO_2 , NR^4R^5 , CN , or CF_3 ;

E is independently O or S ;

A and B independently are OR^4 or NR^4R^5 ;

R^4 and R^5 independently are H , C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl,

$(CH_2)_n$ aryl, $(CH_2)_n$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$ heteroaryl, or R^4 and R^5 when

taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached complete a

3- to 8-membered ring containing carbon atoms and optionally containing

a heteroatom selected from O , S , or NH , and optionally substituted or

unsubstituted;

n is an integer of from 0 to 6.